

WHATCOM COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY (SWAC) COMMITTEE MINUTES April 22, 2021

Members Present:

Kevin Moore, Lisa Friend, Carol Frazey, Rodd Pemble, Kevin Renz, Larry McCarter, Brandi Hutton.

Members Absent:

Robert Hendricks, Michael Olinger

Staff Present:

Jennifer Hayden, Janice Deptuch, Darin Klein, Heather Lopes and John Wolpers

Others Present:

Erik Bakkom, Seth Otto, and Brian Tino all with Maul Foster & Alongi, Diana Wadley - DOE – Ted Carlson with SSC Carolyn Bowie with ECY and Joel Cameron former Solid Waste Engineer.

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Whatcom County SWAC was called to order on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 5:32 p.m. in a Go to Meeting via the web by chair, Rodd Pemble.

Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, Approval of Minutes, Election of New Officers

The minutes for the February 11, 2021, SWAC meeting were approved as written. The motion for approval was made by Carol Frazey and 2nd by Lisa Friend. Motion approved by everyone.

Public Comment Period

Introduction were made for new people present.

Joel Cameron former Solid Waste Engineer

Carolyn Bowie – Department of Ecology

Darin Klein – OSS and Drinking Water Supervisor Whatcom County Health Department

Jennifer Hayden – New Solid Waste Supervisor Whatcom County Health Department

Ted Carlson – SSC

Heather Lopes – Clerk at the Whatcom County Health Department

Update on Recycling

New Slater Road Lautenbach Recycle Park has been in process for over a month. Email from Bill Angel to Jennifer Hayden with update.

The solid waste handling facility permit application for the Slater Road Lautenbach Recycle Park– Material Recovery facility has been submitted by the operator.

Additional documentation is needed to consider it a complete application, subject to public notice and Ecology review.

The operator will provide additional documentation within two weeks to complete the permit application, including a more complete plan of operation, a revised safety plan, and a revised traffic flow pattern.

The operator is installing a weigh scale at this time.

The activities at the site are low risk for storm water and groundwater contamination.

The main pollution prevention concerns for this solid waste management activity are leachate containment and wind-blown littering.

Leachate from the PTAG material placement area is directed to sanitary sewer.

Litter is controlled with high-walled tipping areas for mixed paper and PTAG, timely placement of paper inside the building prior to baling, and timely transfer of PTAG to transport trailers.

Litter cleanup by hand is also an important way the operator controls litter.

Worker safety is another primary concern.

Worker hazard awareness, visibility, and communications, as well as consistent vehicle movements and signaling were observed during recent health inspections of the facility.

Moving SSC to the Waste Hauler Position on SWAC

Option to move Rodd Pemble with SSC to Waste Collection Industry to open up Business/Industry.

2021 Whatcom County Comprehensive Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan Update

Whatcom County Comprehensive Solid and Hazardous Waste Plan Update given by Maul Foster & Alongi (MFA).

We started with the Recycling Contamination Reduction and Outreach Plan (CROP) which is due by July 1, 2021. MFA is using the same format from Ecology. Seth asked for each section if anyone had any comments.

Introduction – No comments

1.1 - No comments

1.1.1 – List of designated recyclables. Code does not show mix waste paper and plastic containers. Diana Wadley stated that Christmas lights can be added to scrap metal.

1.1.2 - No comments

1.1.3- No comments

2.1 – No comments

2.1.1 - No comments

2.1.2 & 2.1.3 & 2.1.4 – Pulled from state CROP. Diana Wadley asked how much variables. A wide variety would like the data. Kevin stated historical contamination is less than 2%. We can do a baseline study.

3 - No comments

4 - Kevin stated bullet 1 (Recycling stream composition studies is what Diana mentioned)

5. - No comments

6. – Basic strategy. Lisa said she didn't see focus groups.

7 - No comments

8 – There are other avenues to reach people. Diana likes bullet 1 (Regional planning and aligned or joint contracting for services to harmonize messaging, lower program costs, and improve program performance).

9 – Implementation schedule -the discussion was that perhaps planning could begin in 2023. The suggestion was only to begin planning before 2024 following state schedule. Some members thought going to 2024 was to long, maybe complete by 2023.

Moving on to the 2021 Whatcom County Comprehensive Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan Update. We are looking at the red items.

1.1 - No changes

1.2 - No changes

1.2.1. - No changes

1.2.2 - No changes

1.2.3 – No changes

1.2.4 – No changes

1.2.5 – No changes

1.2.6 – No changes

1.3 – No changes

1.4 – No changes

1.5 – Lisa recommended that Emergency Plan should be noted.

1.6 – No changes

1.7 – No changes

1.8 – No changes

1.8.1 – No changes

1.8.2 – Lisa recommended adding our relations with Lummi and Nooksack Tribes. Diana supports that recommendation. Rodd commented that they are customers of theirs.

1.8.3 – No changes

1.8.4 – No changes

1.9 – No changes

2.1 – No changes

2.1.1 – No changes

2.1.2 – No changes

2.1.3 – No changes

2.2 – No changes

2.3 – No changes

2.3.1 – Lisa would like to see a section for organics (compostables).

2.3.2 – No changes

2.3.3 – No changes

2.3.4 – No changes

2.3.5 – Lisa would like to see another column added for organics (compostables).

2.3.6 – Lisa would like to see a foot note why the drop from 2014 to 2015. Larry thinks number is wrong.

2.3.7 – No changes

2.3.8 – No changes

2.3.9 – No changes

2.3.10 – No changes

Lisa Friend made a motion to meet in May to finish the rest of these sections. Second by Carol Frazey. All were in favor. Jennifer will set this up. It was also recommended that we change from Go To Meetings to Zoom.

Other Business, Open Session, Announcements:

Lisa Friend commented the committee is doing a great job.
Jennifer Hayden is proposing a new revolving fund to abate solid waste sites.
Diana Wadley stated she is shifting duties and Carolyn Bowie will be our new contact for Department of Ecology.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made 1st by Lisa Friend and 2nd by Larry McCarter. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Whatcom County Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting held April 22, 2021.

Attest: _____
Janice Deptuch, Clerk III
Whatcom County Health Department

Rodd Pemble, Chair
Whatcom County Solid Waste
Advisory Committee